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NOTES AND BRIEF ARTICLES

Professor L. H. Pennington, of Syracuse University, visited the Garden on April 9 to consult the library and mycological herbarium.

Forsythia viridissima is subject to a disease of the flower stalks which, according to Peglion, is probably due to *Sclerotinia libertiana*.

A new disease of bamboo found by Turconi on the branches of *Bambusa mitis* in the botanical garden at Pavia is said to be due to *Melanconium Bambusae* sp. nov.

We are requested by Mr. E. Bartholomew to announce that the publication of "Fungi Columbiani" has been discontinued with the distribution of Century 51.

Professor H. S. Jackson, of Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, spent the week of April 16-21 at the Garden working on plant rusts in preparation of manuscript for a forthcoming part of *North American Flora*.

Professor Frederick E. Clements has resigned the chair of botany at the University of Minnesota to accept a position with the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

Mr. Ray Nelson, formerly assistant in the Michigan Agricultural College Experiment Station, has been appointed plant pathologist for the Illinois Central Railroad.

Mr. W. P. Fraser, plant pathologist of Macdonald College, has been appointed to investigate the problem of grain rust on the prairie provinces of Western Canada.

Professor C. H. Kauffman, of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, spent several days at the Garden about the

middle of April studying the collections of *Inocybe* in preparation for the publication of this genus in *North American Flora*.

Mr. Lex Hesler, of Cornell University, has been granted a year's leave of absence to study plant diseases in Porto Rico. He sailed for Mayagüez on February 10.

Mr. H. E. Thomas, instructor in botany at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, sailed on March 3, to Mayagüez, to take up work in plant pathology at the Federal Experiment Station, Porto Rico.

A wilt disease of the columbine has been traced by Taubenhaus to *Sclerotinia libertiana*, which attacks the crown and then the stem of the plant. The fungus winters over on dead plants, which show the sclerotia in large numbers.

Mr. C. G. Lloyd, of Cincinnati, has presented to the Garden a complete set of all known species of puffballs, based on his extensive and long-continued studies of this group. The value of this contribution can hardly be estimated.

Botryorhiza Hippocrateae. and *Endophylloides portoricensis*, new genera and species of rusts, were described by E. W. Olive and H. H. Whetzel in the January number of the *American Journal of Botany* in an article on the *Endophyllum*-like rusts of Porto Rico.

L. M. Massey, in the Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin 380, gives the results of his rather extensive studies of the hard-rot disease of *Gladiolus* caused by *Septoria Gladioli* Passer. The methods of treating the disease are also considered.

Phymatotrichum omnivorum is the name used by Dr. B. M. Duggar for the fungus causing the cotton root rot which is common in many parts of Texas. An account of this disease was recently published in the *Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden*.

Among fungi collected recently in China by Mr. Frank N. Meyer are specimens of *Cryptoporus volvatus* found on a dead trunk of *Pinus sinensis* at Ching lung shan, Chili Province. This interesting species has previously been collected in Japan.

Five new species of *Ravenelia* from Texas, Arizona, and Florida were recently published by W. H. Long in the *Botanical Gazette*. These species are as follows: *Ravenelia annulata*, *R. morongiae*, *R. reticulatae*, *R. roemerianae*, and *R. thornberiana*.

Dr. E. A. Burt has recently completed a study of the Thelephoraceae collected by W. A. Murrill in Mexico, and reports many interesting species, quite a number of which are new. These will be published in Dr. Burt's series of articles now appearing in the *Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden*.

Helicosporium nymphaeorum is described as new by Frederick V. Rand in the February number of the Journal of Agricultural Research. The fungus causes irregular spotting and decaying of the leaves of various species of pond lilies of the genus *Nymphaea*. Part of the material on which these studies were based was collected in the New York Botanical Garden, although the disease was first noted at Kenilworth, D. C.

Sorauer has recently made observations on house plants and finds that injury from burning gas in rooms is negligible and is easily avoided entirely by ventilation. The chief injuries are probably due to the elevation of temperature and the drying of the atmosphere by means of fires or heaters.

Pistillaria Thaxteri Burt, recently described as the smallest hymenomycete, was found by Professor Thaxter on rotten wood at Westhaven, Connecticut, about twenty-nine years ago. An account of this interesting little fungus appeared in the *Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden* for November, 1916.

The genus *Hypochnus* is treated by Dr. E. A. Burt in the *Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden* for April, 1916, 31

North American species being recognized, of which 13 are new and many are newly combined. The genus *Septobasidium* treated in the September number of the same volume contains 17 North American species, of which 10 are new.

Mushroom fairy rings of *Tricholoma praemagnum* found at several places in Colorado by Francis Ramaley were described and figured in *Torreyia* for September, 1916, which number also contains a redescription of the species by L. O. Overholts. This large and interesting agaric was first described in *North American Flora* from Saskatchewan, Canada.

Entoloma cinchonense Murrill, described from Cinchona, Jamaica, in *Mycologia* 3: 279. 1911, has been found to have hyaline spores and is therefore here newly combined as **Melano-leuca cinchonensis** Murrill. It is readily distinguished from other tropical American species of this genus by its small, ochroleucous pileus and salmon-colored, notched lamellae.

Professor George Massee, the well-known English mycologist, died on February 17 at the age of sixty-seven. Professor Massee was long connected with the Royal Botanic Garden at Kew and published many books and papers on mycology. His private collection of fungi and drawings was purchased by the New York Botanical Garden some years ago. He has been one of the associate editors of *Mycologia* since 1911.

Mr. Sanford M. Zeller has made an extensive physiological study of *Lenzites saepiaria* Fries with special reference to enzyme activity. An interesting experiment by Mr. Zeller shows that *L. saepiaria* will grow well on 50 per cent. resin by weight, which is considerably more than is found in any coniferous wood, and that growth of the fungus is not entirely inhibited by 85 per cent. resin.

Fine specimens of the common mushroom have been sent in by Dr. S. M. Stocker, of Duluth, Minnesota, exhibiting abnormal outgrowths of the fruiting surface on the top of the cap. The inverted hymenium is in many cases not strictly lamellate but

somewhat poroid and otherwise abnormal. This peculiarity is often exhibited by *Tricholoma personatum* and certain other wild agarics.

Dr. C. L. Shear visited the Garden on February 3 to consult the library and mycological collection. He then went with Professor J. C. Arthur to Philadelphia to examine the Schweinitz collection of fungi to determine how it might be made more available to American mycologists. Dr. Shear and Dr. Arthur are members of a committee appointed for this purpose by the American Phytopathological Society.

Mel T. Cook and G. W. Wilson have been investigating the effect of tannin on the growth of the chestnut canker fungus and they find that 0.8 per cent. or more causes a retardation of germination, which is frequently followed by an abnormal stimulation of the growth of the aerial mycelium. It was found that tannin is utilized by *Endothia parasitica*, the fungus being able to remove as much as 2 per cent. from the substratum.

Professor Ellsworth Bethel, of the State Museum, Denver, Colorado, has recently sent in a specimen of *Scutiger cryptopus*, which is the first I have seen from Colorado, the species having been found heretofore in Kansas and Nebraska, attached to dead grass roots in sandy pastures. The specimen sent by Professor Bethel grew in a field at Boulder, Colorado. Other specimens sent at the same time included *Lentodium squamosum*, *Polyporus elegans*, and *P. arcularius*.

Mr. E. D. Merrill, of the Bureau of Science, Manila, has recently sent to the Garden specimens of *Pachyma hoelen* Fries, purchased in a Chinese drug store in Hongkong by Mr. Tutchet, Director of the Hongkong Botanic Garden. This fungus is extensively cultivated on pine trees in central China. The following description by Fries was based on *Hoelen* of Rumphius, which was described from Chinese specimens.

"3. *Hoelen*. *Sinensium*. Oblongum, cortice rugoso, extus intusque sordide flavescens.

"Magnitudo capitis, infantis. Medicamentum pretiosum, Theae instar, ad vires corroborandas, in Phtisi &c., usitatum. *Sub terra arenosa in China, provincia Suchensi.*"

Farmers' Bulletin 789 of the U. S. Department of Agriculture treats of certain insects that attack mushrooms and the means of controlling them. The chief insects considered are maggots, mites, springtails, and sowbugs, the first class being the most important. The author, C. H. Popenoe, concludes that if the mushroom house is carefully constructed and all outlets closed or screened; if the spawn is purchased from reliable dealers; and if the compost is carefully prepared and kept at as low a temperature as possible, there should be little necessity for the radical measures of fumigation, sterilization, or destruction of the mushroom beds.

The report of the New York State Botanist for 1915 contains descriptions and notes of many new and interesting species of fungi, especially of those parasitic on leaves and twigs. Dr. House has been assisted by Professor Dearness in this publication. The following species are new: *Cercospora caricis*, *C. lathyri*, *Cucurbitaria ceanothi*, *Diaporthe minuta*, *Gloeosporium alnicola*, *G. falcatum*, *G. hydrophylli*, *Macrophoma viburni*, *Metasphaeria staphyleae*, *M. varia*, *Microdiplodia ceanothi*, *M. lophiostomoides*, *Phoma florida*, *P. galactis*, *P. linariae*, *P. pectinata*, *P. platanicola*, *Phyllosticta steironematis*, *Ramularia cichorii*, *Scolecospodium coryli*, *Septoria mollisia*, *S. tenuis*, *Sphaeropsis ceanothi*, *S. paral-lela*, *S. viburni-dentati*, *Stagonospora convolvuli*, *Dothidella vac-ciniicola*.

Three new polypores have just been published by W. H. Long in the first number of the *Papers of the New Mexico Chapter Phi Kappa Phi*. *Polyporus pseudosulphureus* was collected on live oak near Ocala, Florida, as well as from three other localities in Florida on the same host. *Fomes arctostaphyli*, which is said to be the smallest species of this genus with brown context yet reported from North America, was collected abundantly on *Arctostaphylos* at various places in Arizona. The author says it is very

common on manzanita in the vicinity of Sedona, where it attacks practically every bush of this host which is over an inch in diameter, causing a very characteristic heart-rot. *Polyporus pini-ponderosae* was collected on *Pinus ponderosa* near Albuquerque, New Mexico. It should be carefully compared with *Tyromyces Smallii* Murrill, which occurs on pine in Florida and Louisiana.

Melanoleuca pulverulentipes Murrill, sp. nov.

Pileus rather thick, convex to plane, becoming slightly umbilicate, solitary, 1.5–1.7 cm. broad; surface moist, hygrophanous, smooth, glabrous, somewhat mottled, fulvous, becoming isabelline on drying, margin incurved, frosted, entire, concolorous; lamellae sinuate, plane, crowded, ferruginous-melleous to ochroleucous, entire and concolorous on the edges; spores ellipsoid, smooth, hyaline, $5 \times 2\text{--}3 \mu$; stipe subequal, tough, smooth, pale-fulvous or ochroleucous, finely pulverulent-fibrillose and ochraceous-melleous at the apex, whitish-mycelioid at the base, 1.5–2 cm. long, 2–4 mm. thick.

Type collected on the ground among mosses in woods at Lake Placid, Adirondack Mountains, New York, July 17–29, 1912, *W. A. & Edna L. Murrill* 181 (herb. N. Y. Bot. Gard.).

HABITAT: On the ground in humus or among mosses.

DISTRIBUTION: Vicinity of Lake Placid, Adirondack Mountains, New York.

W. A. MURRILL.

THE ROSY-SPORED AGARICS

Volume 10, part 2, of *North American Flora*, by William A. Murrill, appeared April 25, 1917. The contents of this part may be indicated, as follows:

Genera	Total North American Species	New Species
<i>Claudopus</i>	9	1
<i>Eccilia</i>	25	9
<i>Leptoniella</i>	43	14
<i>Nolanea</i>	28	11
<i>Pleuropus</i>	30	5
<i>Lepista</i>	4	
<i>Entoloma</i>	63	34
<i>Pluteus</i>	57	30
<i>Chamaeota</i>	2	1
<i>Volvariopsis</i>	21	2
	282	107

For the accommodation of those preferring currently accepted generic names, the following new combinations are proposed for species described as new in *Leptoniella*, *Pleuropus*, *Chamaeota*, and *Volvariopsis*:

LEPTONIELLA ACERICOLA	= <i>Leptonia acericola</i>
LEPTONIELLA ALABAMENSIS	= <i>Leptonia alabamensis</i>
LEPTONIELLA ALBIDA	= <i>Leptonia albida</i>
LEPTONIELLA FULIGINOSA	= <i>Leptonia fuliginosa</i>
LEPTONIELLA GLABRA	= <i>Leptonia glabra</i>
LEPTONIELLA MULTICOLOR	= <i>Leptonia multicolor</i>
LEPTONIELLA MURINA	= <i>Leptonia murina</i>
LEPTONIELLA NIGRA	= <i>Leptonia nigra</i>
LEPTONIELLA OCCIDENTALIS	= <i>Leptonia occidentalis</i>
LEPTONIELLA ROSEIBRUNNEA	= <i>Leptonia roseibrunnea</i>
LEPTONIELLA SEMIGLOBATA	= <i>Leptonia semiglobata</i>
LEPTONIELLA SUBPLACIDA	= <i>Leptonia subplacida</i>
LEPTONIELLA SUBVILIS	= <i>Leptonia subvilis</i>
LEPTONIELLA UMBILICATA	= <i>Leptonia umbilicata</i>
LEPTONIELLA WHITEAE	= <i>Leptonia Whiteae</i>
PLEUROPUS ADNATIFOLIUS	= <i>Clitopilus adnatifolius</i>
PLEUROPUS AVELLANEUS	= <i>Clitopilus avellaneus</i>
PLEUROPUS CINEREICOLA	= <i>Clitopilus cinereicola</i>
PLEUROPUS LIGNICOLA	= <i>Clitopilus lignicola</i>
PLEUROPUS MAGNISPORUS	= <i>Clitopilus magnisporus</i>
PLEUROPUS MURINUS	= <i>Clitopilus murinus</i>
PLEUROPUS OBESUS	= <i>Clitopilus obesus</i>
PLEUROPUS SUBCINEREUS	= <i>Clitopilus subcinereus</i>
CHAMAEOTA BROADWAYI	= <i>Annularia Broadwayi</i>
VOLVARIOPSIS ALABAMENSIS	= <i>Volvaria alabamensis</i>
VOLVARIOPSIS EARLEAE	= <i>Volvaria Earleae</i>

Through an unfortunate error, *Leptoniella Earlei* was used for two distinct species. For the one on p. 90, *Leptoniella paludosa* nom. nov. is here proposed, or, for those following Saccardo, *Leptonia paludosa* comb. nov.

W. A. MURRILL.